

## **Houma, LA Regional Arts Council and Senior Official Debarred from Receiving Federal Funds for five years**

Report No. R-15-02, May 13, 2015

<https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/hrac-final-debarment-report-5-13-2015.pdf>

On May 13, 2015 the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a Special Review Report on Houma, Louisiana, Regional Arts Council (HRAC). The NEA OIG concluded that HRAC mismanaged Federal funds, causing financial debt and compliance issues. Subsequently, HRAC shut down operations which led to the dismissal and resignation of staff and board members.

Based on the deficiencies, the NEA OIG recommended that the NEA debar HRAC and a senior official.

The NEA concurred and implemented the recommendations in the report by debarring HRAC and the senior official from receiving Federal funds for five years. HRAC and the senior official were officially debarred on December 17, 2015 and will not be eligible to receive Federal funds until December 4, 2020. This action demonstrates the NEA OIG and Program Management working together to ensure accountability and integrity in the application of NEA grant funds.